

Combined annual land-surface air and sea surface temperature anomalies (°C) from 1861-2000, relative to 1961 to 1990. The Earth's surface temperature is shown year by year (red bars) and approximately decade by decade (solid red line). There are uncertainties in the annual data (thin black whisker bars represent the 95% confidence range) due to data gaps, random instrumental errors and uncertainties, uncertainties in bias corrections in the ocean surface temperature data and also in adjustments for urbanization over the land. Over both the last 140 years and 100 years, the best estimate is that the global average surface temperature has increased by 0.6 ± 0.2 °C. (Adapted from Climate Change 2001: The Scientific Basis, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, Cambridge University Press.)